

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Mohammad Peyravian)
Serial No.: **09/458,410**) PATENT PENDING
Filed: **December 10, 1999**) Examiner: Aravind K. Moorthy
For: **Time Stamping Method Employing**) Group Art Unit: 2131
Multiple Receipts Linked by aNonce) Confirmation No.:8813
Docket No: **4541-004**)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]

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February 12, 2007

Date

Kathleen Koppen
Kathleen Koppen

This correspondence is being:

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RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

Sir:

Applicant submits the following response in reply to the Notice of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed October 13, 2006. An electronic payment of \$1020 for a three-month time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136 accompanies this response. If any additional fees or charges are required for entry of this response, the Commissioner is authorized to charge them Deposit Account 18-1167.

REMARKS

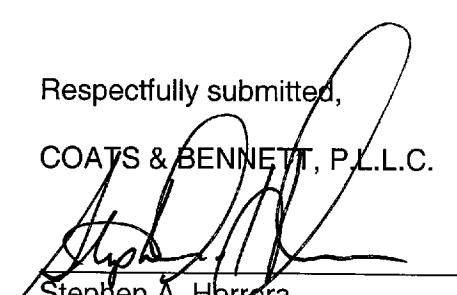
The Notice alleges that the Summary of the Claimed Subject Matter fails to explicitly identify and map each independent claim 1 and 9 to a corresponding page and line number in the specification. Applicants respectfully disagree as the Summary accurately summarizes all claims on appeal, and references both the specification and the figures where appropriate. However, in a good faith effort to advance prosecution, Applicants submit the following amended Summary pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(v) and M.P.E.P. §1205.03(B). In light of the amended Summary, Applicants respectfully request that the Appeal process be permitted to continue.

(5) SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The claimed invention relates to a protocol for time stamping digital documents received at a Trusted Outside Agency (TSA) so that a date of the document may be verified. *Spec.*, p. 4, II. 2-3.

Claim 1 is directed to generating a two-part time stamp at the TSA. As seen in Figure 1, the TSA receives data that identifies a document (e.g., a hash value generated on the document), and creates the two-part time stamp receipt. Specifically, the TSA generates a random linking value and concatenates the received identifying data with the linking value to create the first part of the time stamp receipt. The TSA then concatenates a time indication with the linking value to generate the second part of the time stamp receipt. The time indication indicates when the TSA received the identifying data. Once both parts of the time stamp receipt have been created, the TSA separately signs both parts of the receipt using, for example, the TSA's private key, and transmits one or both parts of the signed time stamp receipt to the requestor. *Spec.*, p. 6, ln. 4 – p. 7, ln. 12.

Claim 9 is directed to a method of using the two-part time stamp receipt for verification purposes. In the event a dispute arises concerning the document, the two-part time stamp receipt is transmitted to the TSA, and may be used to prove the existence of the document as of the date the TSA received the identifying data. To verify the disputed document, the first and second parts of the signed time stamp receipt are verified using the TSA's public verification key. The identifying data included in the first part of the time stamp receipt is compared to the disputed document. For example, if the identifying data in the first part of the time stamp receipt comprises a hash value generated on the document, the disputed document is also hashed. Provided these two hash values are equal, the linking value in the first part of the time stamp receipt is compared against the linking value in the second part of the time stamp receipt. The time that the TSA received the identifying data is verified if the linking value in the first part of the time stamp receipt matches the linking value in the second part of the time stamp receipt. This time is considered to be the priority date of the document. *Spec.*, p. 7, ln. 12 – p. 8, ln. 2.

Respectfully submitted,
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